

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

The California Highway Patrol is a law enforcement and traffic safety agency reporting to Business, Transportation and Housing Agency Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet and Governor Gray Davis.

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CHP GETS AWARD FROM NATIONAL BLACK LAW ENFORCEMENT GROUP

SACRAMENTO -- The California Highway Patrol (CHP) announced today it has received a national award for its innovative program which trains officers in professional police practices involving interactions with all members of the public.

The department was one of six enforcement agencies from throughout the nation to receive the annual Civil Rights Award from the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) and LexisNexis. Assistant Commissioner Doug Orr accepted the award during ceremonies at NOBLE's 25th-anniversary annual conference in Washington, D. C.

"We're proud that the CHP's commitment to fairness has been recognized by one of the most prestigious minority law enforcement groups in the country," said CHP Commissioner D. O. "Spike" Helmick. NOBLE has grown from a core group of 60 African-American law enforcement officers in 1976 to over 3,000 today.

The award recognizes the CHP's SROVT (Solid, Realistic, On-Going, Verifiable Training), a program that focuses on high-risk, low frequency incidents that officers face in the course of their job.

The program is composed of a series of six-minute training sessions conducted during daily briefing. The sessions pose scenarios to the officers involving interactions with the public in assistance and enforcement stops. Officers then work through the scenarios to develop appropriate responses.

"One of the Department's strengths is the extensive training program. Officers go through our 26-week cadet program at our Academy in West Sacramento and then continue to learn the latest law enforcement techniques throughout their career," Helmick said.

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